

## Message Text

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14

ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 IO-13 ADP-00 COA-02 EB-11 OIC-04

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 ACDA-19 AEC-11

AGR-20 CG-00 COME-00 DOTE-00 FMC-04 INT-08 JUSE-00

NSF-04 OMB-01 TRSE-00 RSR-01 /199 W  
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R 220621 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1129

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

C O N F I D E N T I A L CANBERRA 3436

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR

SUBJ: LOS: AUSTRALIAN REPORT THAT CANADIAN REPRESENTATIVE  
WILL RAISE U. S. PORTS AND HARBORS CONTROL ACT DURING  
FORTHCOMING GENEVA MEETING

1. ACTION REQUESTED: THAT DEPT. PROVIDE EMBASSY WITH TWO COPIES  
OF 1972 PORTS AND HARBORS CONTROL ACT.

2. GERRY UNKLES, FIRST ASST. SECRETARY, DEPT. OF TRANSPORT,  
INFORMED EMBOFF JUNE 22 THAT HE UNDERSTOOD CANADIAN  
REPRESENTATIVE  
ALAN BEAZLEY PROPOSES EMBARRASS USG DELEGATION AT GENEVA BY  
MAKING PRESENTATION ABOUT RECENT " UNILATERAL" U. S.  
LEGISLATION ON LAW OF THE SEA MATTERS. ACCORDING TO UNKLES, LEGIS-  
LATION TO BE USED AS AN EXAMPLE IS PORTS AND HARBORS CONTROL  
ACT OF 1972. THIS ACT REPORTEDLY CONTAINS PROVISION THAT SHIPS  
USING U. S. PORTS AND HARBORS OF CERTAIN KIND WILL HAVE TO HAVE  
SEPARATE BALLAST COMPARTMENT AND DOUBLE BOTTOM. ACCORDING TO  
UNKLES, PASSAGE OF SUCH LEGISLATION COULD HAVE DETRIMENTAL EFFECT  
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UPON USG POSITION IN LOS AGAINST INDIVIDUAL STATES HAVING  
PASSED LEGISLATION ON LOS MATTERS OF INTEREST TO OTHER CONFERENCE  
PARTICIPANTS.

3. UNKLES DESCRIBES BEAZLEY AS PARTICULARLY CANTANKEROUS AND  
UNDIPLOMATIC INDIVIDUAL WHO IN PAST HAS FREQUENTLY BEEN WIDE OF  
THE MARK IN HIS ATTACKS IN LOS FORUM. NONETHELESS, BEAZLEY COULD  
EMBARRASS U. S. DEL. BY VITRIOLIC REFERENCE TO U. S. PORTS AND  
HARBORS ACT.

4. IN DISCUSSION, EMBOFF ASKED IF POSSIBLE CANADIAN ATTACK ON  
U. S. POSITION WAS NOT DEFENSIVE IN NATURE SINCE HE UNDERSTOOD  
CANADIAN PROVINCES HAD ALREADY LEGISLATED ON LOS MATTERS WITHOUT  
APPROVAL OF OTTAWA. UNKLES REPLIED THIS MAY BE SO, BUT HIS WORRY  
WAS THAT ANY CHIPPING AWAY AT POSITION THAT STATES SHOULD NOT  
ACT UNILATERALLY IN DRAFTING LEGISLATION WOULD HAVE AFFECT  
ON CONVENTIONS ALREADY IN FORCE AND MIGHT MAKE ACHIEVEMENT OF  
COMPREHENSIVE CONVENTION ENVISAGED AT PRESENT TIME MORE  
DIFFICULT TO ACHIEVE.

5. COMMENT: WHILE FOREGOING INFORMATION MAY BE GRATUITOUS,  
EMBASSY PASSING IT ALONG AS MATTER OF INFORMATION. UNKLES  
IS OBVIOUSLY SINCERE IN HIS CONCERN ON LOS MATTERS AND HAD  
PREVIOUSLY EXPRESSED PERSONAL RESERVATIONS ABOUT SOME THE  
POSITIONS  
TAKEN BY AUSTRALIAN REPRESENTATIVES. EMBASSY HAS NO REASON  
TO DOUBT ACCURACY OF UNKLES' STATEMENTS.  
GREEN

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 22 JUN 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** garlanwa  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973CANBER03436  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GDS  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
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**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
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**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** garlanwa  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 13 SEP 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <13-Sep-2001 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <13-Nov-2001 by garlanwa>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> jms 980224  
**Subject:** LOS: AUSTRALIAN REPORT THAT CANADIAN REPRESENTATIVE WILL RAISE U. S. PORTS AND HARBORS CONTROL ACT DURING FORTHCOMING GENEVA MEETING  
**TAGS:** PBOR  
**To:** GENEVA  
L  
OTTAWA  
SECSTATE WASHDC  
USUN NEW YORK  
**Type:** TE

**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005